Application No.: Not Yet Assigned Docket No.: 12810-00073-US

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

## We claim:

1. (Original) A process for preparing impact-modified polystyrene by anionic polymerization, which comprises

- 1) preparing a rubber solution from diene monomers, or from diene monomers and styrene monomers, by anionic polymerization, using an organyllithium compound as initiator, and with concomitant use of a solvent,
- 2) adding, to the resultant rubber solution, an organylaluminum compound, its amount being such that the aluminum/lithium molar ratio in the rubber solution is greater than 1 or, if the organylaluminum compound used comprises a dialkylaluminum phenolate, is greater than 0.5,
- 3) adding styrene monomer to the resultant solution, and
- 4) adding, to the resultant mixture, organyllithium compound, or organyllithium compound and organylaluminum compound, the amount being such that the aluminum/lithium molar ratio in the mixture is smaller than 1 or, if the organylaluminum compound used comprises a dialkylaluminum phenolate, is smaller than 0.5, and polymerizing the mixture anionically.
- 2. (Currently Amended) A-The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein, during the preparation of the rubber solution in stage 1), no concomitant use is made of compounds which have a retarding action on the anionic polymerization.
- 3. (Currently Amended) A-The process as claimed in claim 1-or 2, wherein the diene monomer used comprises butadiene and the styrene monomer used comprises styrene.
- 4. (Currently Amended) A <u>The process as claimed in any of claims claim</u> 1 to 3, wherein the rubber has been selected from polybutadiene and styrene-butadiene block polymers.

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5. (Currently Amended) A-<u>The</u>process as claimed in-any of claimsclaim 1-to-4, wherein the styrene-butadiene block copolymer rubber comprises at least one butadiene block with a weight-average molar mass of from 50-50,000 to 250-250,000 g/mol.

- 6. (Currently Amended) A-The process as claimed in any of claims claim 1-to-5, wherein the butadiene content of the rubber is from 70 to 100% by weight.
- 7. (Currently Amended) A-The process as claimed in any of claims claim 1-to-6, wherein the solids content of the rubber solution obtained in stage 1) is from 20 to 40% by weight.
- 8. (Currently Amended) A-The process as claimed in any of claims 1-to-7, wherein the solids content of the mixture obtained in stage 3) is from 5 to 25% by weight.
- 9. (Currently Amended) A-The process as claimed in any of claimsclaim 1 to 8, wherein the aluminum/lithium molar ratio of the solution obtained in stage 2) is from 1.01 to 10 or, if the organylaluminum compound used comprises a dialkylaluminum phenolate, is from 0.51 to 10.
  - 10. (Currently Amended) A-The process as claimed in any of claims 1 to 9, wherein the aluminum/lithium molar ratio of the mixture obtained in stage 4) is from 0.5 to 0.99 or, if the organylaluminum compound used comprises a dialkylaluminum phenolate, is from 0.2 to 0.49.
  - 11. (Currently Amended) A-The process as claimed in any of claims claim 1-to 10, wherein further styrene monomer is added in stage 4) prior to or during the polymerization.
  - 12. (New) The process as claimed in claim 2, wherein the diene monomer used comprises butadiene and the styrene monomer used comprises styrene.
  - 13. (New) The process as claimed in claim 2, wherein the rubber has been selected from polybutadiene and styrene-butadiene block polymers.
  - 14. (New) The process as claimed in claim 3, wherein the rubber has been selected from polybutadiene and styrene-butadiene block polymers.

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15. (New) The process as claimed in claim 2, wherein the styrene-butadiene block copolymer rubber comprises at least one butadiene block with a weight-average molar mass of from 50,000 to 250,000 g/mol.

- 16. (New) The process as claimed in claim 3, wherein the styrene-butadiene block copolymer rubber comprises at least one butadiene block with a weight-average molar mass of from 50,000 to 250,000 g/mol.
- 17. (New) The process as claimed in claim 4, wherein the styrene-butadiene block copolymer rubber comprises at least one butadiene block with a weight-average molar mass of from 50,000 to 250,000 g/mol.
- 18. (New) The process as claimed in claim 2, wherein the butadiene content of the rubber is from 70 to 100% by weight.
- 19. (New) The process as claimed in claim 3, wherein the butadiene content of the rubber is from 70 to 100% by weight.
- 20 (New) The process as claimed in claim 4, wherein the butadiene content of the rubber is from 70 to 100% by weight.